(e) to what extent these measures have safeguarded the interests of broadcasting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) The News Broadcasters Association (NBA) have prepared their Code of Ethics & Broadcasting Standards. In the aftermath of terrorist attack in Mumbai, NBA have also issued Guidelines for Telecast of News during Emergency Situations and also issued specific Guidelines covering Reportage to be adhered to by their member-broadcasters.

(d) and (e) It has been mentioned by the NBA that all their member channels are voluntarily adopting their Code of Ethics and Broadcasting Standards as a measure of self-regulation.

Curbing sexual perversions

†920.SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI:
SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state the steps being taken and proposed to be taken by Government to curb dishing out sexual perversions through literature and electronic media?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): As far as literature is concerned, the National Book Trust (NBT) does not allow publication of such material and manuscripts. Manuscripts are selected after strict scrutiny to ensure that it is free from any reference to any such issues. The manuscripts are also reviewed by outside experts/scholars whenever necessary. So far as Print media is concerned, Government has set up the Press Council of India, a statutory autonomous body under the Press Council Act, 1978 with the twin objectives of preserving the freedom of the Press and of maintaining and improving the standards of newspapers and news agencies in India. The Government does not exercise any control on the content of the Print media. Press Council of India have, in turn, formed Norms off Journalistic Conduct under Article 13(2)/(b) of the Press Council Act, 1978.

So far as electronic media (Private Television channels) is concerned, all the private satellite Television channels are required to adhere to the Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and the rules framed thereunder. Whenever any complaint is brought to its notice, the Ministry examines the matter and appropriate action is taken as per Rules.

Doordarshan and AIR stations

921. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Doordarshan (DD) and All India Radio (AIR) stations functioning in the country, particularly in Himachal Pradesh;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(b) whether Government has received any proposal from Himachal Pradesh to set up new DD and AIR stations/centres in the State;

(c) if so, the action taken by Government thereon;

(d) whether Government proposes to set up new DD/AIR stations and expand the capacity of existing stations in the country, particularly in Himachal Pradesh where signals do not work due to geographical condition of the State;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) by when these stations/centres are likely to be set up and the capacity of existing DD/AIR stations is likely to be expanded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN): (a) Presently, 232 AIR Stations are functioning in the country. Out of which 6 AIR Stations are functioning in Himachal Pradesh. As regards DD, there are 66 studio centres and 1415 transmitters in their network. Out of these, one studio centre and 54 transmitters are located in Himachal Pradesh.

(b) and (c) So far as proposal received from Himachal Pradesh in respect of AIR is concerned, Low power (100 watts) FM Relay Transmitters have been installed at Bilaspur Town, Berthein Mandi, Sundernagar, Manali, Keylog and Rampur, Bhramour, Chauri Khas, Chamba. As regards DD, no such proposal has been received from Himachal Pradesh in recent past.

(d) to (f) The areas uncovered by terrestrial transmission along with rest of the country have been provided with multi-channel TV coverage through Doordarshan's free to air DTH service "DD Direct Plus". DTH signals can be received in the entire country including Himachal Pradesh (except Andaman & Nicobar Islands) with help of a small sized dish receive units. New DD transmitters are not contemplated now. As regards AIR, 11th Plan proposals have not yet been finalized.

Electronic media on crime and domestic issues

922. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for silence and inaction in the matter of news and views expressed by various electronic media on crime and domestic issues in various States; and

(b) the existing regulatory mechanism to monitor TV serial programmes which are against the established norms and practice of Indian culture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) All the private satellite Television channels are required to adhere to the Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and the rules framed thereunder. Whenever any violation is brought to the notice, the Ministry examines the matter and appropriate action is taken as per Rules.